



This public service announcement has been approved by the board of selectmen town of Litchfield

Public Service Announcement September 8, 2009

Town of Litchfield, NH

What You Need To Know About

The Town of Litchfield will begin the application of barrier treatment; this application will start at approximately 7:30 PM Wednesday, September 9, 2009. The application treatment is expected to conclude Wednesday evening, however there is a chance that completing the activity in one evening may not be possible. In that case we would continue until completed Thursday evening.

Where will the treatments take place?

The following areas will be treated;

- Darrah Pond play ground area, rope course area
- BRICK YARD DRIVE park tree-line
- Fire station and Old Town Hall tree-line
- Library tree-lines
- JEFF LANE park tree-line
- Ball Park Corning tree-line
- LMS,GMS, and CHS tree-line
- Incinerator tree-line
- ALBUQUERQUE AVENUE tree-line

Precautions

The application of any pesticide requires precautions. Avoid direct contact with treated areas for at least 72 hours. Copies of the pesticide's Material Safety Data Sheet are available on the town's web site for your review. If you have any questions regarding these applications please contact any member of the Mosquito Control District or the Health Department at 424-4046.

Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

- **TRANSMISSION: What is the basic EEEV transmission cycle? How do people become infected with EEEV?**
 - EEEV is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. It generally takes from 3 to 10 days to develop symptoms of EEE after being bitten by an infected mosquito.
 - The main EEEV transmission cycle is between birds and mosquitoes.
 - Many species of mosquitoes can become infected with EEEV. The most important mosquito species in maintaining the bird-mosquito transmission cycle is *Culiseta melanura*, which reproduces in freshwater hardwood swamps. *Culiseta melanura*, however, is not considered to be an important vector of EEEV to horses or humans because it feeds almost exclusively on birds. Transmission to horses or humans requires mosquito species capable of creating a “bridge” between infected birds and uninfected mammals such as some *Aedes*, *Coquillettidia*, and *Culex* species.
 - Horses are susceptible to EEE and some cases are fatal. EEEV infections in horses, however, are not a significant risk factor for human infection because horses are considered to be “dead-end” hosts for the virus (i.e., the amount of EEEV in Their bloodstreams is usually insufficient to infect mosquitoes).
- **ETIOLOGIC AGENT: What causes EEE?**
 - Eastern equine encephalitis virus is a member of the family Togaviridae, genus *Alphavirus*.
 - Closely related to Western equine encephalitis virus and Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus
- **HUMAN CLINICAL FEATURES: What type of illness can occur?**
 - Many persons infected with EEEV have no apparent illness. In those persons who do develop illness, symptoms range from mild flu-like illness to EEE (inflammation of the brain), coma and death.
 - The mortality rate from EEE is approximately one-third, making it one of the most deadly mosquito-borne diseases in the United States.
 - There is no specific treatment for EEE; optimal medical care includes hospitalization and supportive care (for example, expert nursing care, respiratory support, prevention of secondary bacterial infections, and physical therapy, depending on the situation).
 - Approximately half of those persons who survive EEE will have mild to severe permanent neurologic damage.
- **INCIDENCE: How many and where have human EEE cases occurred?**
 - Approximately 220 confirmed cases in the US 1964-2004
 - Average of 5 cases/year, with a range from 0-15 cases
 - States with largest number of cases are Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, and New Jersey.
 - EEEV transmission is most common in and around freshwater hardwood swamps in the Atlantic and Gulf Coast states and the Great Lakes region.
 - Human cases occur relatively infrequently, largely because the primary transmission cycle takes place in and around swampy areas where human populations tend to be limited.
- **RISK GROUPS: Who is at risk for developing EEE?**
 - Residents of and visitors to endemic areas (areas with an established presence of the virus)
 - People who engage in outdoor work and recreational activities in endemic areas

Persons over age 50 and younger than age 15 seem to be at greatest risk for developing severe EEE when infected with the virus. Additional information may be located on the town website <http://www.litchfield-nh.gov/index.htm>, click on Mosquito Control District and follow the links as needed.

Alfred Raccio

Mosquito Control District